

## Holy Family Confirmation Philosophy and Goals

*"The hour has arrived for preparing young generations of apostles who have no fear about proclaiming the Gospel."*

The Late Great Pope John Paul II



### 1. Becoming an Apostle for Christ

The overall goal of Confirmation preparation is to assist each young person to see themselves as an Apostle for Christ. Youth will grow to see themselves as having an important responsibility in the Church for bringing Christ into the world.

### 2. Taking Ownership for Faith

We place a great emphasis upon taking responsibility or ownership of one's Faith life. We want to lead youth to a point where they can say, "My parents chose to baptize me, but now I choose the Faith, and I choose to be Confirmed. I will take responsibility for continuing to learn my Faith, and I will take responsibility for my own relationship with God and for my own behavior." (This in no way lessens the parents' role.)

### 3. Growth in Friendship with God; Growth in Knowledge

We emphasize that developing their own personal relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church is their first priority, and really goes hand in hand with coming to a better knowledge of their Faith. (In other words, this formation involves both the heart and the mind, both personal conversion and catechesis. Having one without the other is incomplete.)

### 4. Apologetics

All catechesis is taught with an "apologetics perspective," that is, we teach with the goal of helping students explain or defend this teaching to others.

### 5. Applying Faith to Life

We frequently bring current affairs and news into class to show youth that their Faith isn't just a "Sunday thing," but that it applies to all areas of life.

### 6. We offer youth Respect and Hope

We believe youth are to be treated with respect, keeping in mind St. Paul's advice to Timothy: *Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.* (1 Timothy 4:11-12) Our late Holy Father John Paul II is our favorite role model for how youth should be treated: with respect, hopefulness and high standards.